

September, 1993

Dear friends,

This morning I was reading the twentieth of thirty-one lessons in Andrew Murray's little classic With Christ in the School of Prayer. The title of the chapter is "That the Father may be glorified, or The Chief End of Prayer". It is a commentary on John 14:13: "I go unto the Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." Andrew Murray says of this verse, "There is nothing of which the Beloved Son has said more distinctly that it will glorify the Father than this, *His doing what we ask.*"

And then it struck me...God is glorified, honored, and magnified when He answers prayer — when He does something for us — when He does what we ask — what an awesome revelation of His nature. Is God so grand a Servant to His creation as to "do what they ask"? And yet, that is what answered prayer is: God doing what we ask. And to think that such a thing brings glory to Him — to be known as One who does what WE ASK!!

How humble and loving and generous and self-sacrificing and merciful and gracious and longsuffering He must really be...what can it be like to know such a servant hearted Father, Son and Spirit! What a different God He is from what we would dream up in our unredeemed flesh. Who would ever think that the God who created the heavens and the earth would be waiting to "do what we ask"? And to think that we consider it such a holy thing when we finally begin to pray. How holy and awesomely glorious is the answer that comes from an Almighty God who is willing to "do whatever we ask" in Jesus' name! What a grand and glorious privilege it is to have such a promise as this, "*And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do...*"

To Ukraine ...

When you get this letter, we will be in Moscow and on our way to Krivoy Rog, Ukraine — to help start a new church. (Our trip is October 4-13.) The Lord has proved faithful once again in providing for the journey, this time through our home church. Thanks for praying for the release of the funds, and give thanks to the Lord with us, not only for the finances but also for allowing us to be a part of this church planting outreach. We expect to see many come to new faith in Christ, and to see the beginning of a thriving new church.

Let's start a Missionary Prayer Fellowship...

Soon after we return, we want to begin a new prayer ministry, to which you are all invited. (If you live close enough to come!) On November 2, we will begin a *Missionary Prayer Fellowship*, to meet weekly on Tuesday nights at 7:30. It will be in our home, unless a bigger space is needed. It is with the intention of encour-

aging corporate prayer for the missionaries and mission bases with whom we are friends. We hope it to be a spiritual birthplace and prayer shield for future outreaches, and allow us to enlarge our network of missionary relationships. Would you agree with us for the establishment of this missionary prayer fellowship, and consider joining it?

Thanks for praying for our children...

Our daughter Jenni is settled in the college routine at Bethany College of Missions; Jay and Lana are in a stretching time, with Lana now at the U of MN in pre-med classes, and Jay in the furniture restoration business. (employed at it full time, and also doing his own work in our garage.) Jeff and Jermaine are also doing well — Jermaine in her last year at North Central, and Jeff just installed as Youth Director at our home church (part time, to become full time). Thank you for continuing to pray for our children and their spouses. We continue to see many prayers answered in their lives!

Please pray especially for our monthly support in these next few months. New finances need to be released for us; we are confident that the Lord will do this, but we highly value your intercessory prayer for us in this area.

Pray also for the other friends and prayer warriors who get our prayer letter. Pray for the Lord's blessing in their lives. (The letter goes to 228 homes.) We should be a prayer shield for one another, don't you think?

Thank you for praying for us. To those of you who have given financially -- we are very grateful. Thank you for your love, and for your willingness to be part of our lives and partners in our service to the Lord.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

*The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.*

*The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and give you peace.*

Yours in Christ,

John and Jackie

Prayer needs:

- *Protection, wisdom and fruitfulness in Ukraine
- *Establishment of the missionary prayer fellowship
- *Our children and spouses
- *Our 228 prayer partners like yourself
- *Our personal financial support
- *Future outreach to Asia
- *Future Schools of the Spirit
- *Future training for prayer warriors